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onpage 16-17



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Sunday, August 25, 2013

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Tag persistent offenders now – police chief

BY LAUREN ARCHELL

lauren.archell@lutononsunday.co.uk

BEDFORDSHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner Ollly Martins is calling for the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to speed up the introduction of compulsory GPS tagging of known offenders.

This week, the MOJ confirmed that while locational tags will be available to help in the future, legislation governing who is responsible for monitoring offenders has to be updated.

Until this happens the possibilities of GPS technology, beyond traditional curfew tagging, will not be realised.

But a frustrated Ollly Martins said: "We have the technology and we know it works but we are still not allowed to use it to its full potential."

"It's like driving a Ferrari with the handbrake on."

"To be truly effective these new generation GPS tags should be fitted when offender management teams and the courts think they will most help tackle reoffending and thereby reduce the number of victims."



FRUSTRATED: PCC Ollly Martins has called for compulsory GPS tagging

"At the moment they can only be fitted for purposes beyond enforcing a curfew if the offender agrees."

"I am aware that the law needs changing if we are to see compulsory GPS tagging, but the MOJ took over 18 months to make a decision on who will supply these tags in the future, and I hope they do not take that long to make the necessary legislation changes."

The PCC added that although

he is pleased that the MOJ has listened to pilots in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, in his view the MOJ is still missing a trick as GPS tagging can be used in more situations than the old fashioned tag.

"You can use it effectively in situations where there is an exclusion zone in place" he said. "It would be very useful as a condition of bail, for prisoners released on licence, to ensure that sex offenders are indeed staying away from sensitive areas, that people convicted of domestic abuse are not harassing their victims and so on."

"GPS tagging is already being used in some of these situations in other countries."

Back in March the commissioner wrote a letter to the Justice Secretary, which called for a more local approach to the provision of electronic monitoring, adding that PCCs are in a good position to tailor the service to local needs and create a competitive market.

Do you think legislation should be changed to allow for the compulsory tagging of known and prolific offenders? Let us know.

Are you
in our
results
pictures?

Check at luton-dunstable.co.uk



ECSTATIC: A student at Cardinal Newman High School looks delighted after opening his GCSE exam results on Thursday morning. See more pictures at luton-dunstable.co.uk

Hard work pays off for GCSE students

IT was all smiles at schools throughout the area on Thursday morning as thousands of pupils nervously opened their GCSE results.

Despite warnings that grades had dropped nationally this year, students locally appeared to have bucked the

trend with impressive results across the board. For some schools, including Barnfields South and West Academies in Luton, it was a record-breaking year.

For more success stories from GCSE results day, turn to pages 22-23.

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Man detained for sex assault on pensioner

BY LAUREN ARCHELL
lauren.archell@lutononsunday.co.uk

A MAN who sexually assaulted an 82-year-old woman in her own home will be detained indefinitely in a secure hospital, 'to ensure the public are safe from him', a court heard.

Darren Emmerson, 40, forced his way into Winifred Smith's home in Houghton Regis in March and subjected her to a 'truly horrific attack'.

Tragically, his victim died just nine days later.

On Thursday at Luton Crown Court Emmerson admitted the sex assault and was detained in a secure hospital under Section 37 of the Mental Health Act.

Judge David Farrell QC said it was a matter of 'great sadness' that Ms Smith had died so shortly after the horrific attack.

But, despite being knocked to the ground in her hallway and sexually assaulted, the ordeal had not caused her death.

The judge heard Emmerson, who has Asperger's Syndrome and lived in a residential home in Houghton Regis, told police on his arrest that he had carried out two attacks on elderly women in the 1990s.

Neither matter was pursued due to a lack of evidence.

The court heard how on Monday, March 18, having



DETAINED: Darren Emmerson pleaded guilty to the attack

made sexually aggressive remarks to a young woman in the street, Emmerson went to St Andrews Close and saw through the window of Ms Smith's bungalow that she was in and watching television.

He knocked on the door and barged in, knocking her to the floor.

"She shouted at him to go away and take her money," said prosecutor Andrew Copeland.

"He said he was not interested in money and slapped her around the face twice."

The court heard he sexually assaulted her, then walked out of the door, leaving her on the floor.

Ms Smith took over an hour to crawl to her phone to call police, who had to smash a pane of glass in a door to reach her.

Emmerson was arrested when a manager at his home saw a police appeal about the sex assault and became suspicious about his behaviour that night.

Judge Farrell told Emmerson he had subjected Ms Smith "to a truly horrific sexual attack", adding, "this man is at present an extremely dangerous individual and is someone who has to be in a secure environment to ensure the public are safe from him."

Emmerson was also made the subject of a restriction order, meaning he can be held indefinitely and, if released, would be monitored.

Following the emotional sentencing, Ms Smith's nephew Andrew Cook said: "Today we feel that justice has been served and that Winnifred's wishes have been fulfilled in taking this man off of the streets."

"I'd like to thank the police for their hard work and support throughout the last seven months. Bedfordshire Police should be proud of their officers."

EDL to hold Bank Holiday protest march in Stopsley

POLICE and Luton council have said they are 'aware' of plans for a demonstration by the English Defence League (EDL) tomorrow.

The protest, which due to be held in St Thomas' Road in Stopsley, has been organised by the group after a charity football tournament it was planning at a sports centre was cancelled.

Stephen Lennon, the leader of the EDL, claims the management at PlayFootball.net called off their event, which had been planned for the Monday, after receiving complaints from members of the community.

He said it had been replaced by a 'Goals for Gaza' tournament which is raising money for the Ummah Welfare Trust's Palestine Appeal and that he was calling for a 'level playing field where the community should be treated the same'.

However, Mark Thomson, the head of operations at PlayFootball, said: "We are proceeding with this event because the charity commission have advised that this is a legitimate charity."

"As a business our focus is on sport and not politics and we do not wish to be associated with any political or extremist organisations."

Both the police and council have confirmed that they are aware of the potential of a protest, and will be monitoring the situation.

On Wednesday, both EDL leaders Stephen Lennon and Kevin Carroll were charged with obstructing police officers in east London.

The pair were arrested outside Aldgate East Tube station on Saturday, June 29 after allegedly trying to defy a ban on marching to the scene of the murder of soldier Lee Rigby via a major mosque.

Both men are due to appear at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Wednesday, September 11.

newsbriefs

WOMAN DIES AFTER COLLISION

A 70-YEAR-OLD woman has died following a road accident in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

The incident happened on Percival Way, Luton, just after midnight, when the pedestrian was involved in a collision with a silver Mercedes Vito. The driver of the vehicle was not injured but the pedestrian was

taken to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital where she later died.

If you have information relating to this collision you can contact PC Nesbitt on 01438 757500.

SIGN UP TO RECORD CHALLENGE

CHILDREN and adults from Luton are this month (August) invited to sign up for a record-breaking attempt for the most people signing and singing on the

same day.

The national deaf healthcare charity, SignHealth is hoping more than 150,000 people will join in with the annual event taking place on February 5, 2014.

For more information visit www.sign2sing.org.uk.

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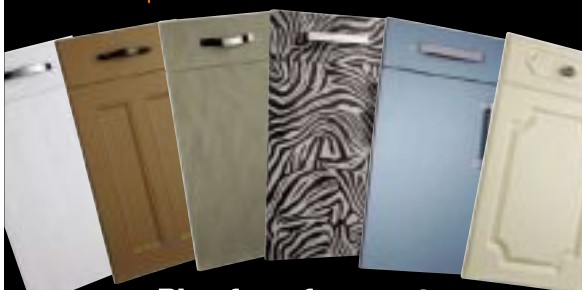
LUTON Council has a vacancy on its Adoption Panel which currently

meets every four weeks on a Friday, increasing to every three weeks in the new year.

The adoption panel plays a crucial role in finding families for children and young people, by assessing the suitability of prospective adopters and matching children with adopters.

For more information you should contact Roline Hargreaves from the Adoption Team on 01582 547804.

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Library campaigners will not 'stand back'

BY CARL MUNGAZI
carlmungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk

CAMPAIGNERS fighting the closure of a library have said they are not going to 'stand back' and allow it to be shut.

Janice Jones, pictured, said Wigmore residents did not want the library to be closed as it was their 'legacy'.

This week Luton Culture announced that it was consulting with staff over plans to permanently shut Wigmore library and Sundon Park library, as well as end the mobile library service.

A final decision will be made once the organisation has done the consultation and considered petitions against the closure. But it also said it was looking at its 'preferred option' of shutting both libraries and the mobile service.

Ms Jones said: "The community really don't want this library to close; they feel that it's the heartbeat of the community. It's obviously our children's legacy because they use it a lot and it's about passing it on to future generations."

"We are not going to stand

back and let them close it."

A review into library services found that Wigmore was the fourth most visited in the town but only had a nine per cent coverage.

Maggie Appleton, chief executive of Luton Culture, said: "Obviously we would be sad to have to close any libraries at all. Libraries are invaluable, especially when times are tough, and they represent what Luton Culture is all about - providing cultural services for everyone in Luton."

"They're a hugely important resource for the community. For that reason the council and our board considered very carefully the different options bearing in mind our funding reduction."

What should happen to the library?

Vote in our poll at luton-dunstable.co.uk



Ms Jones (left) has been campaigning with Cllr Diane Moles and Doreen Steinberg outside ASDA in Wigmore this week

Seven arrested after CCTV alert

SEVEN men have been arrested on suspicion of robbery thanks to quick work by the police and council officials.

The men were spotted acting suspiciously in the early hours of Thursday morning by council CCTV operators who then alerted the police to the group's activities.

Bedfordshire Police's

road policing unit, the central tasking team, response units and a dog handler were scrambled in to the Telford Way area and five of the men were arrested close to Brook Street.

After several minutes of tracking a sixth man was found hiding in a bush by a police dog and his handler.

The seventh man was later picked up by officers at an address in the Downs Road area.

The men, all aged between 15 and 20-years-old, are now being held for questioning by officers in connection with a robbery that happened close to the underpass leading to Moor Park at 1.50am.

Investigating officer,

Detective Constable Matt Shepherd, said: "The reduction of robberies remains a priority for Bedfordshire Police."

"We will continue to work together to ensure those who are committing crime are brought to justice."

Anyone with information can contact the police on 01582 394443 or 101.

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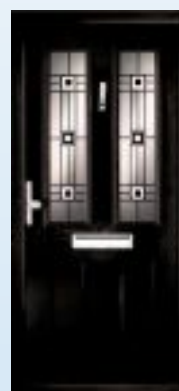
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Busway opening date is confirmed

BY LAUREN ARCHELL
lauren.archell@lutononsunday.co.uk

BUS services on the controversial £91 million Luton Dunstable Busway will begin on Wednesday, September 25, it has been confirmed.

Three bus companies – Arriva, Centrebus and Grant Palmer – will operate four new routes that together provide core services between Dunstable and Luton as often as every seven minutes at peak times.

The core Busway route comprises 6.1-miles of segregated bus-only road between Blackburn Road in Houghton Regis, through Dunstable and into Luton town centre.

Within this, a 4.8-mile section of concrete guideway has been built along the disused Luton-Dunstable railway corridor so that standard buses can join and leave the track.

“After 20 years in the planning and three years in construction, it’s incredibly exciting to be announcing the opening date of the Luton Dunstable Busway,” said Cllr Dave Taylor, Portfolio Holder for environment at Luton Borough Council.

“People in Luton, Dunstable and Houghton Regis have been waiting a long time for a

OFFICIAL:
Services will
start running on
the Busway on
Wednesday,
September 25



significant improvement to the transport network.

“These journey times are not only extremely fast, in some cases more than twice as quick, but also frequent and reliable.”

But the announcement has received a mixed reaction on social media like Twitter.

Colin Yeates said: “I’m one of the vast majority of Lutonians who will pick up the costs but live far away from it”, while Keith Mason said: “I have a car which is cheaper to drive and park in

town than a bus.”

For more on the Busway and the services, visit www.luton-dunstable.co.uk.

**Is the
Busway a
good idea?**

Vote in our poll at
luton-dunstable.co.uk

Rubbish returns to garages

MORE rubbish has appeared outside a set of abandoned garages – just days after the council cleared the area.

A discarded mattress and other debris was found outside the garages in Curzon Road, despite it having been cleaned by Luton council on Monday.

Forid Chowdhury, a resident in the area said the

council was not taking fly-tipping ‘seriously enough’ because each time it took rubbish away, more came in its place.

He said: “The problem is that we feel that this area has been ignored – it’s become a blind spot where people come to dump their stuff.”

“The council are not taking this seriously enough. These

garages should not have been abandoned in the first place.”

A council spokesman said as the waste was on private land and the responsibility of the owner, it would be making contact with him about the situation.

He added: “The Biscot area is treated the same as all other areas in the town and is serviced once a fortnight.”

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The UKCCA said the event would evoke the 'Rio spirit'

Volunteer call for Brazilian carnival

WITH less than a fortnight to go until Brazilian Carnival Encontro 2013 in Luton, the UK Centre for Carnival Arts has made another call for volunteers.

The event, which takes place between September 6-8, features some of the world's best Samba bands, live music, DJs and dancing.

Locals can enjoy free samba performances or try a free Brazilian dance workshop at the centre.

To get involved e-mail kath@carnivalarts.org.uk for an application form.

Council defends high use of bailiffs

BY CARL MUNGAZI

carlmungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk

LUTON council has the highest number of bailiff referrals outside of London, a report by a money charity has shown.

Figures from Freedom of Information requests sent to local authorities by the Money Advice Trust (MAT) revealed that Luton had called bailiffs 18,378 times in the last 12 months, which was 22 per cent of all its properties.

Nationally all councils

across England and Wales made a total of 1.8 million referrals.

Local authorities most commonly refer council tax arrears, business rate arrears, and parking fines to bailiffs for collection.

Joanna Elson, chief executive of MAT, said it was 'not economically or socially responsible' for councils to use bailiffs so frequently.

Luton council criticised the analysis for taking 'no account of the fact this is largely old debt'.

A spokeswoman added that the authority worked to 'target those who won't rather than can't pay'.

Is this too heavy handed?

Comment at luton-dunstable.co.uk

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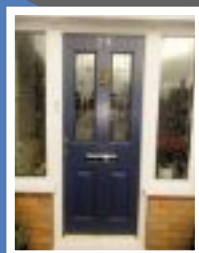
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Mr Hopkins said he was 'delighted' with the post office

Relocated post office unveiled

A POST Office branch which relocated and underwent a refurbishment has officially opened.

The branch, which moved from 150 Sundon Park Road to the Nisa convenience store at 154-6, also on Sundon Park Road, opened this Wednesday (August 21).

Kelvin Hopkins, MP for Luton North, cut the ribbon during the ceremony and was joined by Gurbant and Baldev Dhillon, the two brothers who run it with their wives.

'Nuisance' biker is arrested by police

BY CARL MUNGAZI

carl.mungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk

A MOTORCYCLIST suspected of stealing a vehicle and riding on pathways and private land has been arrested.

Detectives said the 'nuisance' rider was apprehended on Wednesday on suspicion of theft of a motor vehicle as well as other traffic offences.

At 11.25am the police received a call that two motorcycles were being ridden along Tithe Farm Road by

men who were not wearing helmets.

Officers attended the scene and soon established that one of the motorcycles matched the description of a vehicle stolen earlier this month.

Local policing teams from Dunstable and Houghton Regis were then assisted by the National Police Air Service in a search of the area and the vehicle was spotted close to Houghton Quarry.

They continued tracking the vehicle which was travelling along public footpaths

and across local housing estates. At around 1.25pm the suspect surrendered and was apprehended.

After the operation, Sergeant Linda Wilson said: "I hope that this sends out a clear message that we will do all that we can to deal with the issue of nuisance motorists and motorcyclists."

"We received good information from members of the public and were able to take appropriate action to stop this vehicle and arrest the rider."

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your letters

Payday loans should be used very carefully

SIR – Gavin Shuker says the community should put an alternative in place to payday lenders.

I wouldn't defend payday lenders but they are in business because of banks and employers.

The banks won't give anyone with a poor record zip.

In my case my bank won't let me go into the red by 1p.

If I am down at Sainsbury's and I try to make a payment for £10 and I only have say £9.50 in my account it will be declined.

That is even if my employer is making a regular weekly payment tomorrow.

Talking of employers, they don't care about their employees.

If I am sick I don't get paid for the first three days. If I was living on a week-to-week basis and I was sick, how am I expected to survive especially if the rent is due.

Especially as my bank won't help and statutory sick pay also doesn't start for three days, so



LOANS: MP Gavin Shuker, who represents Luton South, has called for an 'alternative to quick fix pay day lenders'

income could be down that week by £200 which is shocking.

And if you have a family what happens?

The answer is payday lenders step in and that is a good thing. If you know how to use them it is a good thing, but it is very easy to get into trouble.

The way I use them now is if I have a payment before my

payday I borrow the minimum amount and pick up the phone on my payday and pay it back that day.

This saves a) my bank not paying and b) the inevitable charge.

So it saves me money and gets my rent paid on time.

Once it cost me £5 and the minimum bank charge would have been £18 (with other banks it

could have been treble that if there were more payments coming in).

So we need payday lenders, but we also need people to understand that they only use them for an unforeseen bill, or when you have got it wrong.

Payday lenders aren't always paid, how could they be! So maybe we're paying their high interest rates

because people don't always pay.

Probably quite easy to avoid payment as you just have to lose your bank card.

As for credit unions, I have no clue how you get involved with these. I hadn't heard of them before the Archbishop of Canterbury mentioned them.

Peter Harridge, Address supplied

A warning to all the would-be litter bugs

SIR – I had to write after reading the article placating people in the Biscot ward for their untidiness (*Luton on Sunday*, August 18).

When I was at school I got the cane for even looking untidy and if I was caught desecrating anywhere with rubbish, I have no need to tell you where I got the cane.

All this emphasises the fact that tidiness and cleanliness begins at school and in the home. So desecration of our planet is the fault of parents and teachers.

When you see litter being blown about streets in the wind you can be sure that it is the spirits of the late departed been sent back to clear up the litter that they helped to spoil mother earth with.

So I warn all you litter bugs (as we used to call them during the war), be aware!

George Donohoe, Axe Close, Luton

We've got tips, so please use them!

SIR – I fail to understand why residents of Luton find it

necessary to "fly-tip".

Every time that I appear at the tidy tip off Eaton Green Road with my estate car loaded with an assortment of rubbish, the staff there are happy to direct me to the skips appropriate for the rubbish I have.

They are always polite and helpful, and the service is free to Luton residents. So why risk prosecution for fly-tipping when there is a cost-free alternative?

David Woodroffe, Stapleford Road, Stopsley

It's not just the town that is rubbish today

SIR – Sorry but I have to agree with the survey that Luton is a 'crap town' with some areas being a total disgrace.

I am one of the older residents that over the last 50 years or so has sadly witnessed the decline of what was once a pleasant and decent place into its present pathetic state.

Unfortunately, we now have a 'crap' football team too!

Name and address supplied

Great to read good news about the L&D

SIR – It made a change to pick up the *Luton on Sunday* and see

some good news on the front page regarding the miracle twins Caitlin and Daniel.

They are gorgeous and their parents must be so relieved to see them both make an almost full recovery, after facing the possibility of losing them both.

People are very quick to do down the L&D hospital, but the nurses, doctors and all staff work so hard to make sure happy endings like these are a reality.

It's just a shame that we don't hear more about the phenomenal things the hospital does every day.

Name and address supplied

Please think again about eating chicken

SIR – British chicken farmers are claiming a boost in sales in the wake of the horse meat scandal. This consumer behaviour highlights the inconsistency of British sentimentality: love for some animals, indifference for others.

Why are chickens undeserving of compassion and concern? They feel pain and get frightened, and suffer horribly in factory farms and at the slaughterhouse.

If you are upset at the thought of eating one type of animal, spare a thought for the others.

A horse is a chicken is a pig is a fish. For a free guide to going meat-free, email info@animalaid.org.uk or call 01732 364546.

Claudia Tarry, Campaigner, Animal Aid

Still work to be done to eradicate Polio

SIR – This year's British Polio Month was a great success and the UK campaign led by The British Polio Fellowship mirrored progress on the eradication of Polio, yet much work remains to be done before we can consign this disease to the history books.

An outbreak in the Horn of Africa is a new cause for concern, as on-going conflicts in these countries can hamper the fight against Polio in over 145 territories throughout the world.

While the struggle against Polio in these countries may seem thousands of miles away, over 120,000 people are living with Post Polio Syndrome (PPS) in the UK who need support. This debilitating neurological condition is a misunderstood legacy of Polio in our country.

The British Polio Fellowship is here to help and can be contacted on 0800 018 0586 or visit www.britishpolio.org.uk.

Ted Hill MBE, CEO, The British Polio Fellowship



Your comments on the stories that have featured on our website this week:

Libraries could close

@christofflenon: Can't afford to keep libraries open, can afford pop concerts and an unwanted busway. The council needs to sort its priorities

@DanHeley1: Massive cut in central gov funding necessitates reviewing services. This is not councils fault, but Tory government.

@collyeates: Strange how #Labour @luton-council are only presiding over #library closures in mainly non #Labour wards?

Andrea Stobbart: Children need libraries for education. Why are the council hitting out at children? It's the worst idea ever – if they want to save money sack the managers on six figures.

Busway due to open

Anon: YES to bypassing all the congestion on Luton/Dunstable Roads. Goodbye to hours spent staring at Bury Park!

Anon: There are already buses to Dunstable. If I wanted to use a bus, I'd have got on a pre-existing one. While I accept journey times will be quicker, rail would have been a better and more comfortable option for passengers.

Anon: It took a long time to complete it and Luton council could have spent this money wisely. Complete waste.

@masekwm: I have a car. A car is cheaper to drive and park in town than a bus.

Parkinson's research

@ParkinsonsUK: @unioffbeds Studies like this help us understand these nerve cells & give clues to what causes them to die in Parkinson's.

Day trip to seaside

@theNBFA: Thanks so much for including info about our Break-Away in the paper, we have had a great response from people who read it!

Our most read stories

- Opening date for the Luton Dunstable Busway is announced

- English Defence League plan to hold Bank Holiday Monday protest

- Pedestrian, aged 70, dies after road traffic collision on Percival Way, Luton

- Plan to close libraries will move ahead

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NORTHAMPTON'S HOLIDAY PARK**DELIGHTED:** The apprentices have now graduated

Group complete aircraft training

MONARCH Aircraft Engineering has announced the graduation of 12 apprentices at a celebratory event at Luton Airport.

All of the aircraft engineering apprentices have undergone a four-year work programme.

Commenting on the achievement, Mick Adams, managing director, said: "We are very proud to see the apprentices graduate."

"They have already made a significant contribution to the business."

Town wards set to get £380k funding

BY CARL MUNGAZIcarl.mungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk**FAMILIES in the town are set to benefit from a grant aimed at helping struggling parents give their children the best start in life.**

Luton council and the Pre-School Learning Alliance have been awarded £380,000 to ensure children are able to communicate and socialise with other children and adults by the age of three.

It will go towards the Biscot, Dallow, Farley, South and

Northwell wards.

The town is one of 15 areas in the country to reach the final stage of the Big Lottery's 'Fulfilling Lives: A Better Start' programme.

It now has the opportunity to receive further funding of up to £50 million in investment for the town.

Cllr Waheed Akbar said: "The lottery funding gives the partnership an opportunity to enhance the quality of parenting, strengthen communities in our most disadvantaged wards and help make

Luton a more prosperous place to grow up in."

An area strategy will now be made and submitted in January 2014 to see if town is eligible for more funding.

**Is the
grant good
news?****Comment at
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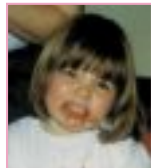
Happy Birthday



LYDIA LINDOR

Best wishes on your 21st Birthday (Today)
 Enjoy your day
 Love always,
Mum, Dad, Keyjana & Family x

Happy 21st Birthday



MEGAN SHIELDS

25th August 2013
 We are so proud of you and love you very much.
Mum, Tony, Tom and Holly xxxx

Happy Birthday



REBECCA AND MELANIE DAY

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 25.08.13 and
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Engagements

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HAZEL AND JOHN WARNER

24th August - Congratulations
 With love from Justine, Davina, Malcolm, Robert, Matt, Adam, Ryan, Emily, Callum and Marcus

Congratulations

Congratulations!



TOM CHAPMAN

Well done on your excellent GCSE Results! We're so proud of you! Love From
Mum, Dad, Jessica, Jack, Grandma, Grandpa & Danni

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Congratulations

EVAN CARSON

Congratulations on your 2:1 B.A. Honours Degree in Professional Musicianhip.
 Much love from your proud Mum, Dad, Jen and Pete



Congratulations

MARGARET-ANN MASON

Who's worked so hard to achieve passes with merits in all her exams.
 Well done 'u'
 Mum x



www.luton-dunstable.co.uk

FOR FAST, UP TO THE MINUTE LOCAL NEWS

onsunday

In Memoriam

GLYNN PATRICK HART (TEARDROP)

26.08.2004
 Loving memories of a loving Son.
 The years go rolling by but memories of you Son will never die.
 Love and God Bless.
 Mum
 R.I.P

In Loving Memory MICHAEL ELMORE

1941 - 2011
 Your presence we miss, your memory we treasure.
 Loving you always, In my thoughts forever.
 Your loving Wife Sylvia, and Angela, Sally, Tracey and Donna.

LAWSON ENID — 31st August 2012
 Remembering all the times you drove me bonkers Mum! Still missing you one year on HARRY — 25th October 1978 in Loving Memory of Dad, still missed after 35 years. Love Marion & John x

LES PARROTT

Taken from us 23.08.12
 Treasured memories of our beloved Dad and Pops.
 Missed, loved and thought of every day by your adoring Ann, Harry, Jenny and Evan Carson



Sam Makeham

30th August 2012
 In loving memory of a dear Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad.
 Remembering you is easy, we do it everyday, and missing you is something that will never go away.
 Love you always
Lynne, Alison, Lisa, Aaron, Holly, Russell, Trevor and Kevin.

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Candidates for Dunstable by-election revealed

FIVE candidates will contest the by-election for the vacant Central Bedfordshire Council seat in Dunstable Northfields Ward on Thursday, September 12.

The names of the candidates are as follows:

Bev Coleman (Independent), Jeannette Freeman (Conservative), Garry Lelliott (UK Independence Party),

Duncan Ross (Labour) and Lynda Margaret Walmsley (Liberal Democrat).

The by-election follows the death of councillor Denise Green.

Poll cards and postal information cards have been sent to 6,818 electors entitled to vote in the election.

If you are not already registered for a postal vote and you want to apply to vote by

post for this election you can do so up to 5pm on Wednesday, August 28.

Postal votes will be issued from Thursday, August 29.

Polling stations will be open between 7am and 10pm on Thursday, September 12.

For more information go to www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/elections, or email electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

BREAKING NEWS

on www.luton-dunstable.co.uk

Short season will help England win

BY CARL MUNGAZI

carl.mungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk

PREMIER League and Football League 2022 programmes need to be cut short if England are to succeed at the World Cup, according to a leading sports science academic.

Professor John Brewer, pictured, from the University of Bedfordshire, said teams need to travel to Qatar at least a month in advance to prepare for the searing heat.



Prof Brewer, who is a former head of Sports Science at the Football Association, said

studies have shown that a summer tournament in Qatar will only be possible with the right preparation.

He said whilst performance would be 'impaired' in hot conditions, players could adapt if they arrived early enough.

He added: "In order for this to happen, the FA would need to look at the fixture calendar, in conjunction with the Premier League, to ensure players can finish the domestic season in very good time."

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Pudding recipe is an award winner

CHRISTMAS may be a few months away but one family business has got its festive preparations off to a flying start after winning a gold star for its pudding.

Nanna's Christmas Pudding, based in Dunstable, was given the accolade at the world renowned Great Taste Awards where thousands of foods are judged every year.

Judges described the home cooked treat as 'very appealing with a rich sheen and on cutting, sliced well and crumbled into the bowl beautifully'. They added it was a

AT THIS year's Great Taste Awards Dunstable-based Nanna's Christmas Pudding won a gold star. We sent CARL MUNGAZI to find out why

'good all round pudding'.

Paul Clayton, 31, pictured right and below with his family, said it was a 'great honour' that his family's creation had been deemed good enough to appear on the same list as Harrods' Luxury Christmas Pudding.

He runs the dessert firm with his wife out of their kitchen using a recipe first used by his great-grand mother. So what makes Nanna's puddings so special? He said: "We make them ourselves by hand in basins and we stir them with a wooden spoon rather than put them in big industrial machines like others produce them."

"We make small batches at a time so we see every ingredient that goes in. They get steamed for ten hours during the process whereas other people don't do that."

"For a batch we would make the mixture the night before which would take about four hours and then it's put in the fridge."

"The next morning we then put them in their containers and they are steamed."



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TASTY TREAT: Paul said he used to give the puddings away as presents but decided to go into business after people offered to buy them. Judges at the Great Taste Awards said it was 'not too sweet, good alcoholic flavour, not too over powering. The texture was light and very satisfying. The judges kept going back for more. Well spiced and the correct balance of sweetness and sharpness to the fruit'. Paul said the next step for the company was to begin supplying local pubs and restaurants as well scaling up the operation.



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PROPOSAL: The Melson Arms could be demolished

Plan to turn pub site into 18 flats

A PLANNING application has been submitted for the building of flats on the site of a vacant pub.

Mr Tofik Miah has drawn up plans to build 18 flats over four storeys after the demolition of The Melson Arms pub in John Street, Luton.

The current building is Grade II listed and is thought to have been built in the 1860s, but a Heritage Statement concludes that "the proposed replacement building would be an appropriate solution to a new building in this location."

Boy, 15, is robbed twice in one day

BY LAUREN ARCHELL

lauren.archell@lutononsunday.co.uk

A TEENAGER was the victim of two robberies on the same day in Luton town centre.

The 15-year-old was on the ramp on George Street leading into The Mall on Sunday, August 11 at 5pm, when he began to speak to two men who then demanded he hand over £10.

When he refused and began to walk away, the duo grabbed him and during a scuffle took the victim's black Nike

zip up hooded top.

The pair are described as two males of Asian appearance, between 15-16 years old. One wore a blue Ralph Lauren polo shirt and it is believed they used the names 'Tab' and 'Dudley'.

The second robbery happened at 8.30pm when the teenager was in the Namco Station Arcade in The Galaxy Centre.

Two teenagers approached him and asked him to go outside for a chat.

He did this and followed

them to a stairwell where the pair searched him before punching him in the face.

A number of other youths then joined in the assault.

Investigating officer, Detective Constable Ben Stone, said: "The victim has stated that a member of the public came to help him after the second offence and I would appeal to this person to come forward and tell us what they saw."

Anyone with information should call Bedfordshire Police on 101.

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Students making the GCSE grade

THERE was no evidence of the much-talked about 'record fall in GCSE top grades' on Thursday, with many students achieving incredible results.

At Cardinal Newman, head girl Kayleigh McKee bagged an impressive 6 A's, 3 As and a distinction in IT, while her best friend Shannon Bradley gained 5 A's and 5 As and a distinction in IT. Elsewhere, head boy, John O'Neill is well on the way to achieving his

THIS week our reporter LAUREN ARCHELL joined students opening their GCSE results

ambition of becoming a pilot, after gaining 8 As, a B and C.

Barnfield South Academy saw 78 per cent of students achieve 5 A*-C grades. At Barnfield West, 100 per cent of students accomplished 5 A*-C grades overall, with 68 per cent achieving 5 A*-C.

Overall, results show that

many students in Luton achieved above the national average, which Cllr Waheed Akbar said was 'fantastic news for the town'.

In Dunstable the indications are that the number of students achieving five A*-C grades including maths and english is up to 58.6 per cent.



DELIGHTED: (Main and left) Super students opened their much-coveted GCSE results at Barnfields' South and West Academies - where it has been announced it was a record-breaking year, with a 21 per cent increase in the student success rate. (Far right) Having opened their results, students at Cardinal Newman look surprised at how well they have done, while (right) best friends Kayleigh McKee and Shannon Bradley celebrate after achieving 11 A's and 8 As between them. The pair will continue their education at college.

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The survey of more than 2,000 adults last year found that in excess of 8.4 million people have switched careers in the previous three years and a further 3.2 million intended to do so in the year after.

Money was deciding factor in 2/5 of respondents. Even if you are trying to get back into the same field of work as you were in before, it is still a good idea to gain more skills.

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"Well Done to the Students of Icknield!"

We are delighted with the results the Icknield students have achieved this year. There have been some outstanding individual results from many students and it is thrilling that their hard work has been rewarded. Often the most pleasing results come from those who are not naturally academically gifted but have adopted a 'can do' and 'never give up' attitude, their results are amongst the most special.

Success is not by chance and there are many people who work tirelessly to help the students achieve their potential and will always go the extra mile – the staff! Their passion for their subject and their ability to communicate this through their teaching makes for an enjoyable learning experience.

The parents and carers are often the unsung heroes on results day. The role they play in supporting Icknield in what it is trying to achieve and through their constant encouragement and on occasions 'nagging', make them a crucial part of the Icknield team.

We wish all our students the very best for the future as they take the next steps of their journey and Icknield is proud of these young people and the young adults they have become.

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CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



After weeks of tension, the waiting was finally over and Cardinal Newman GCSE students found they had plenty to celebrate. Almost everyone met their target grades and there were some very high achievers:

Graciella Martin Rijo, Kayleigh McKee, Jessica Gajewski, Shannon Bradley, Monica Nyazika, Anna Rowley, Lara Francioni, Elena Panepinto, Frances Welch, Sydney Cornforth, Arnold Cantero, John O'Neill all achieved at least 8 A*/A grades.

Mrs Crow, Headteacher said that the Year Group had worked extremely hard to achieve the grades that they deserved. "We have seen some stunning results overall, not just from the most academic, but also from students who have triumphed against the odds through sheer hard work and determination to succeed. This has been a very special group of students who have actively supported and encouraged each other. I look forward to welcoming many of them back to Newman Sixth next year to continue their studies."

Mrs Crow also thanked the teachers and other staff who had dedicated themselves to supporting the students. "We have excellent teachers who really go the extra mile for their pupils. It is wonderful when they can see the results of all those long hours of work"

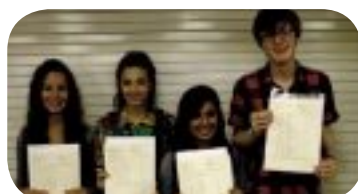
Staff and students celebrated together as the envelopes were nervously opened and results revealed followed by squeals of delight, relieved sighs and tears of happiness for a job well done.

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Congratulations to a fantastic year group who have shown that all their hard work and valued support from staff and parents has really paid off. We wish them the very best for their future careers and look forward to seeing them return to share their stories of success.

Our students have achieved high standards in their academic GCSE subjects as well as a wide variety of vocational courses including BTECs in Construction, Media and Sports Studies.

Once again we are delighted that our students have lived up to our ethos of High Expectations, High Achievement and Learning for Life.

Well done Stopsley!

Some of our highest achieving students include:

Daniel Wood with 9 A* and 2 A grades!

Simran Bedi with 8 A* and 2 A grades!

Gemma Saxty with 5 A* and 4 A grades!

Abigail Adams with 6 A* and 4 A grades!

Headteacher Karen Johns said, "I am so pleased to see so many happy students who have achieved their goals. They are a credit to the school and their families."

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WOODLANDS learning together



It has been an exciting year at Woodlands with lots of changes to the curriculum and the school. We have new playground equipment to develop sensory integration across the school. The students have been learning to use public transport and accessing the community on a regular basis as part of their life skills curriculum.

Students participated in a Luton in Harmony Birthday event in the Arndale Centre handing out cakes to shoppers made as part of their mini enterprise curriculum.

The school is developing a horticulture curriculum with students from Wootton Upper School and Woodlands working together to create the infrastructure. On the 11th July we held a 'Ground Force' style day with volunteers from the Santander Bank working with us to build a gazebo, poly tunnel and wheel chair accessible paths. Kelvin Hopkins and Gavin Shuker supported the event and planted our first fruit trees in the garden.

We have been on a wide variety of educational visits to reinforce our learning including going to Brighton on the train, visiting Luton Hoo for breakfast and a residential trip to The Frontier Centre. Students have also participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and completed an expedition.

We had our first School Prom at The Luton and Indians Cricket Club, the students looked fantastic and it was a huge success. We wish our leavers both in Year 11 and FE every success in the future.

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Luton Futures is a partnership of secondary schools working together to ensure bright futures for Luton's young people.



Lealands
High School



Lealands' students have achieved excellent results. Their successes reflect the school motto, 'Aspire Believe Achieve' and many have achieved above expectations which is a credit to their hard work and dedication.

Some individuals performed exceptionally well, achieving more than 6 A*/A grades: Jess Conway, Matthew Cooney, Molly Davies, Alex Eves, Shannon Kitsell, Chantelle Knight, Aaliyah Lockitt, Jordan Mongey, Shannon Murphy, Amy-Liann Nilsson and Lauren Powell. A special congratulations to Amy-Liann Nilsson who gained a phenomenal 13 A*/A grades.

A number of students made exceptional progress in English/maths: Nathan Beck, Ryley Divine, Aeshia Dayes, Tia Fleming, Shannon Kitsell, Pierce McCarthy, Kareem Ngwisa, Leanne Rouse and Samantha Thompson.

Mr Burridge, Headteacher, said, "I am overjoyed by the success of our students. They and their teachers work so hard and it is great that this has paid off with such fantastic results. This year has been full of highlights with the completion of our refurbishment, excellent outcome from Ofsted and now this! We are all celebrating."

Paul Troughton, Chair of Governors, said, "Our school has gone from strength to strength and these results are wonderful. The staff are so committed and dedicated. The Governors would like to wish all of our ex-Year 11 students well for the future".

Address: Sundon Park Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 3AL

Web: www.lealands.luton.sch.uk

E-mail: lealands.high.admin@luton.gov.uk

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ASHCROFT
high School



Ashcroft students have yet again proved that they deserve to be judged as outstanding. The GCSE results are even better than last year's and are a fitting reward for the hard work put in by both students and their teachers. The results include students who have reached the highest levels with A*/A grades, as well as those who have achieved grades far higher than originally expected. Ashcroft congratulates all of these students; their success lies in their determination to be 'the best that they can be'.

Students who have achieved a string of top grades include: Jack Cowap (Head Boy), Candice Clarke, Shakila Ferdous, Ranjeev Menon, Yasmin Abdat, Margarita Kaganovits, Ummar Khalid and Mustafa Said.

Students who have made outstanding progress and achieved well above their expected grades include: Maryam Shah, Suheyla Abdi Mohammed, Ayanle Abdi, Tangela Choudhury, Kadiza Begum, Paige Williams, Ben Davies and Tsharna Daniel.

Ashcroft's Headteacher, Ms Austin, commented, "I am filled with pride at the achievements of our students. These results will give them real choices in their lives and allow them a much brighter future. Seeing the joy on each student's face is what makes the job worthwhile. Well done year 11! We wish you the success in your future studies and careers that you all deserve. You will always be part of the Ashcroft Family. Please come back and share your skills and experience with the younger students".

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LEA MANOR
HIGH SCHOOL



There was a celebratory mood at Lea Manor this morning as Year 11 came to collect their results with many of them meeting or exceeding their target grades. Mr Salusbury, Deputy Headteacher, said: "I would like to congratulate all of our students and staff and thank our families for their support."

The two highest performing students were Latia Corbin and Andrew Rippington who between them achieved 20 A* and A grades.

Latia said: "I have really enjoyed my time at Lea Manor and I would like to thank all of the staff for supporting and challenging me. I feel very well prepared for my new courses at Luton Sixth Form College."

Ms Corcoran, Assistant Headteacher for pupil progress, also commended Naomi Nimoh-Gyakyi for making the most progress from key stage 2 to key stage 4. She said Naomi is a hardworking and conscientious student who richly deserves his/her success.

Ms Purcell, Senior Tutor for Year 11, praised a number of students for their endeavour in overcoming personal challenges. She said: "I would like to say a special well done to A J Davy Dupris who only joined us in Year 9. He made significant improvements in his attendance and with the support of Active Luton has achieved all of the qualifications needed for his football course at Central Beds."

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CHALLNEY HIGH
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



Challney High School for Girls is delighted to acknowledge and congratulate our students on their excellent examination results and individual personal successes. These results reflect the sustained diligence and enthusiasm of our girls, supported by a dedicated team of highly effective teachers and support staff.

Headteacher Shirley Havard said, "Each girl can take pride in their well-deserved achievements and the school is thrilled by the significant improvement in our overall attainment. Well done to our 'Olympic' year group and sincere thanks to the dedicated team, both inside and outside of the classroom, who have translated our ambitions for our students into this excellent array of successes."

Chair of Governors Masood Ahktar added, "The governing body are very proud of our school community and especially pleased with this year's results. The hard work of the girls, with the support of their parents and teachers has come to fruition and we send our congratulations to you all."

Challney High School for Girls is a busy and ambitious school defined and inspired by the principles of Respect, Opportunity and Achievement, which lead to every student having the best possible learning experience and achieving the best possible outcomes. The 'Olympic' year group are a stunning group of highly talented, kind and thoughtful young ladies who have earned every accolade that we can give them – Well Done!

Address: Addington Way, Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 9FJ

Web: www.challneygirls.luton.sch.uk

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THINKING OF RETRAINING?

As we begin to emerge from the recession, there are still many people who are left unemployed. Thousands of people are still unable to find work in the field where they had plied their trade for the most of their professional careers.

However, one in five adults intends to gain further qualifications with colleges reporting increased enrolment, according to a study by YouGov.

The survey of more than 2,000 adults last year found that in excess of 8.4 million people have switched careers in the previous three years and a further 3.2 million intended to do so in the year after.

Money was deciding factor in 2/5 of respondents. Even if you are trying to get back into the same field of work as you were in before, it is still a good idea to gain more skills.

Training courses are run at colleges; universities private courses providers, advice centres and adult education centres.

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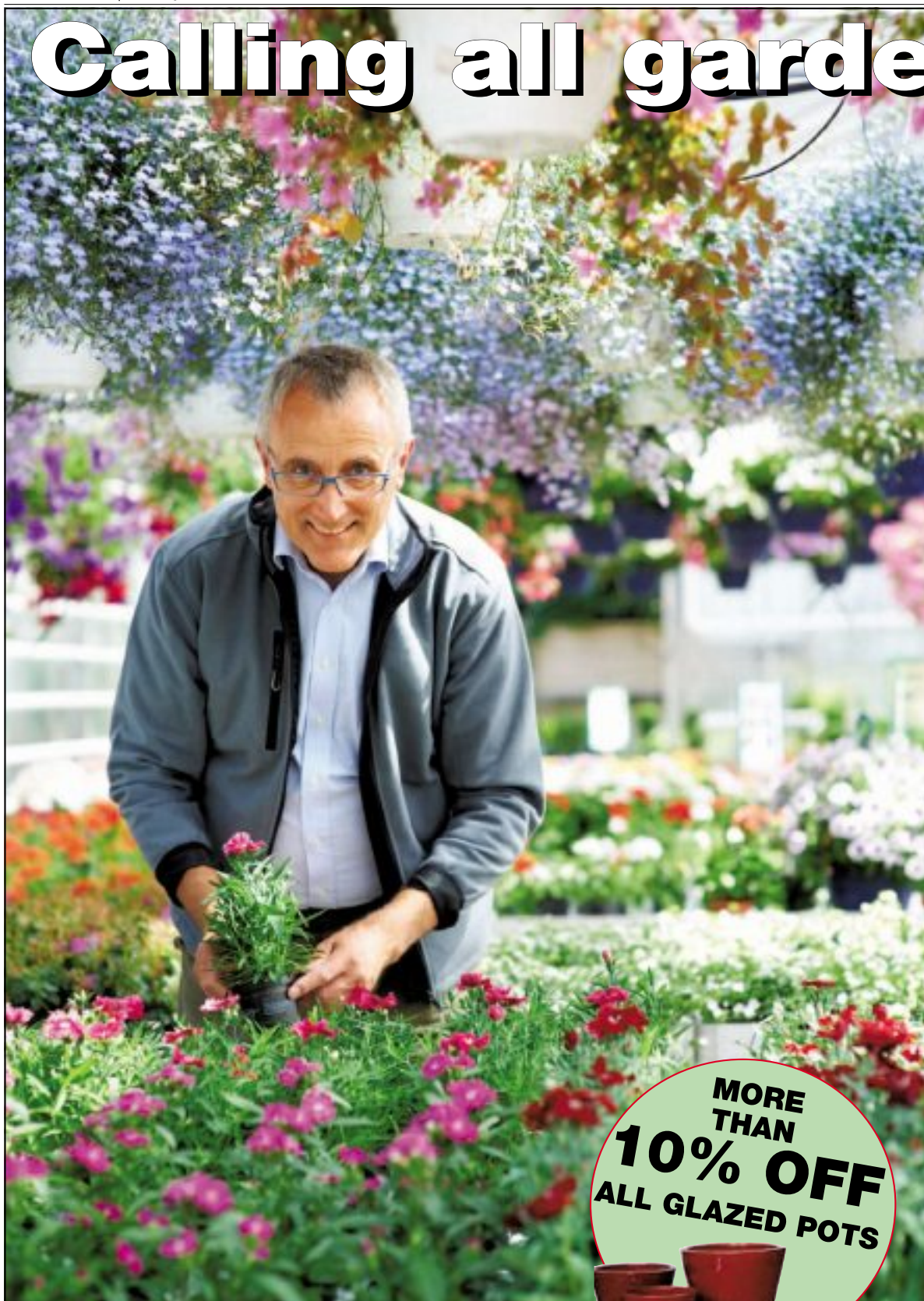
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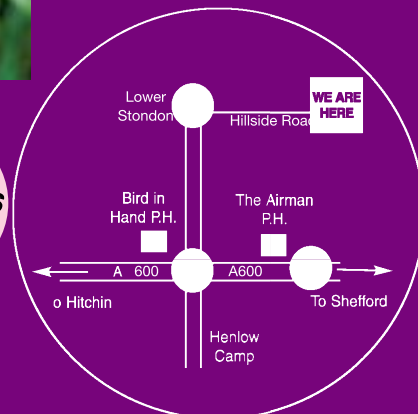


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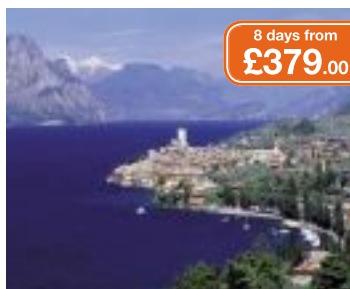
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- Seven nights' self catering accommodation at the 3-star Daphne Apartments, Kato Paphos (upgrade 3, 4 and 5-star hotels available at a supplement)
- One suitcase per person allowance
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NOT JUST ANOTHER RESTAURANT

Get into holiday spirit at Summer in the Sun

THERE is still time to get out your bucket and spade and head to St George's Square in Luton for Summer in the Sun. The town's first beach themed Bank Holiday event is already underway, and has seen the square completely covered in 100 tonnes of sand which is ready to make sand castles, or just sunbathe on!

Today the best local bands will be showing off their talents on the main stage, while other activities include Punch and Judy, bouncy castles, games, music and dance. The extravaganza, which runs until Monday, will also include a mini food festival allowing visitors the opportunity of tasting dishes from around

the world. Summer In The Sun is free to attend, and has been funded by private sponsorship. For more information on the full programme or how to get involved visit www.luton-love.co.uk/summer-in-the-sun. Opening times are 12 noon-9pm today, and 12-5pm tomorrow.

Marathon runners can win a spa day

BY LAUREN ARCHELL
lauren.archell@lutononsunday.co.uk

RUNNERS have been given an extra incentive to take part in the Love Luton Half Marathon – the chance to win a luxury spa day at Luton Hoo.

The offer is open to those who sign up before Saturday, September 21.

The 13.1-mile marathon is due to take place on Sunday, October 27, and will start at 10am at Venue 360 in Gipsy Lane, Luton.

Matthew Long, General Manager at Luton Hoo Hotel,



Golf & Spa said: "We are delighted to support the Love Luton Half Marathon this year.

"It is sure to be a wonderful event for a great cause and we look forward to cheering on

the participants as they run through our beautiful estate on the day."

Participants can pledge to take part by visiting www.loveluton.org.uk/halfmarathon.

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FILM REVIEW

KICK-ASS 2 (15)

Directed by Jeff Wadlow

THIS sequel to the acclaimed comedy-tinted superhero flick has traded the 'smarts' of the original with a bit more 'Hollywood' – to make it more accessible to most cinema-goers.

The violence remains, but isn't as bad as new co-star Jim Carrey alleged – which reportedly saw him ditch publicity for the film – and is

only done (albeit gratuitously at times) at key moments.

After Kick-Ass (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) rose to prominence as the first real-life superhero, countless humans have donned outlandish clothing and vowed to keep the streets clean – with one group led by Carrey's Colonel Stars and Stripes.

And after Hit-Girl (Chloe Grace Moretz) hangs up her cape after her cop-mentor Marcus (Morris Chestnut) vows to keep her safe after the death of her father, an itchy-footed Kick-Ass comes out of retirement to join forces with the likes of Battle Guy and Dr Gravity.

But when Red Mist (Superbad's Christopher Mintz-Plasse) vows revenge (this time for the death of HIS father), dresses up in his now-dead Mum's fetish gear, gives himself a new double swear-worded (well one is only a swear word to be fair) villainous name, and hires some of the world's deadliest assassins – it puts everyone Kick-Ass knows in imminent danger.

And even though this lacks the ingenuity of the (slightly over-rated) first film with a fairly generic plot, its colourful characters, humorously violent set-pieces and several stand-out comedy moments, makes this a more-

rounded experience.

For die-hard fans though, Kick-Ass 2 quite obviously forsakes a little of its integrity to provide a thoroughly watchable popcorn-cruncher that has deducted originality from its repertoire.

But in cinematic times where execs try and make films to maximise profit – this sequel still sticks to its roots to provide tastefully humorous violence not often seen in mainstream cinema since the action heyday of the eighties.

Rating: 3/5

Written by Gavin Miller

Win a chance to brush up on your DIY knowledge

COMPETITION

National Home Improvement Show
Friday-Sunday, September 27-29

The National Home Improvement Show returns to Olympia in London next month and 28 people are being offered the chance to attend the show for free.

Sponsored by Anglian Home Improvements, the event brings together over 300 exhibitors from across the UK offering advice and property-enhancing solutions for budding DIY hobbyists.

At the show leading property and renovation experts from Real Homes Magazine such as Michael Holmes (editor-in-chief) and Julia Kendall (interior designer) will be on hand to guide visitors through their home renovation projects with seminars, masterclasses and one-to-one consultations taking place each day at the show.

New features for this year include The Planning Clinic, Homebuilding and Renovating zone and the Ask the Architects Advice clinic designed to kick start your home improvements.

In addition, there will be free daily seminars and master classes addressing specific problems such as building regulations, planning permission, and permitted development rights.

The experts will also cover plans for internal decor and eco efficient facilities to enable your projects to run smoothly from start to finish.

There are 14 pairs tickets (each worth £24) on offer. Each ticket admits two. To be in with a chance answer this question:

Where does the national homebuilding show take place? a) The NEC b) Olympia c) Wembley Park arena.

E-mail your answers to carl.mungazi@lutononsunday.co.uk or post them to 28, King Street, Luton, LU1 2DP. Closing date is September 1.

Terms and conditions apply. The editor's decision is final.

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CHRISTMAS

Christmas party at Luton Town FC
Room available between December 4-20

LUTON Town Football Club has announced it is giving opportunities for people to hold their Christmas parties in the Eric Morecambe Lounge.

It's part of the club's new internal catering drive which is called the 'Eric Morecambe Christmas Parties'.

Boasting an exclusive, historic, environment for groups with a capacity of up to 120, including space for a dance floor and disco, the lounge is a good venue to celebrate in style.

There will be a fully stocked bar, three course carvery dinner with all the trimmings and festive decor to match.

So what better place is there to get merry and soak up that Christmas spirit than in the lounge of the comedy genius Eric Morecambe?

The first 20 groups to book will be entered into a prize draw, with the chance to win a five-seater executive box for one home league game during the 2013/14 season, a signed home shirt, or a signed ball.

The party organiser pays no fee but prices are £28 per head.

If you're interested in having your Christmas party at Kenilworth Road please contact the catering team for more information on 01582 411622.

Alternatively, you can send an email to david.romans@lutontown.co.uk.



Discover the countryside

WALKING

Bedfordshire Walking Festival
September 7-15

I LOVE to go a wandering, along the mountain track... says Judy Riley

I do actually. I like nothing better than to lace up the old walking boots, unfold the OS map and strike out, knapsack on my back, into the unknown.

Not that there are many mountains in Bedfordshire but we do have our fair share of public footpaths that criss-cross fields and heathland, and wind their way through woods and beside rivers.

If you are wondering where they

might be or whether you're allowed to explore them when you find them, the Bedfordshire Walking Festival 2013 is timed to perfectly coincide with any queries you may have.

For the fifth year running – sorry, walking – Bedfordshire Ramblers, supported by local councils, charities and community organisations, are organising a programme of walks and events that take place across nine days and take in pretty much the whole of the county.

Every walk in the festival will be led by someone, either from Ramblers or one of the other partner organisations, who has a good knowledge of the route and who will share their enthusiasm for it with you.

If hunting for treasure, GPS-style, or hide and seek geocaching is your

thing, there's a two-mile walk and GPS treasure hunt starting at 1.30pm on Sunday, September 15 at Bromham Mill.

Do you need a bobble hat to join in on any of the walks or related events? No, not unless the weather turns unseasonably cold for mid-September.

Do you need a rucksack, hiking boots and a compass? No, not unless you want to dress to impress.

And do you need to be able to enjoy fresh air, fine views and working up an appetite for lunch, tea or dinner? Well it certainly helps as does an appetite for discovering the rural highways byways, footpaths and hiking trails of Bedfordshire.

For more information visit www.bedswalkfest.co.uk.

Charity ball to raise money for the youth

AS ONE of the town's well established charities, Mary Seacole supports young vulnerable people between the ages of 16 and 30.

The organisation employs a staff team of 50, which includes full and part-time staff who provide 24-hour support and it has a holistic approach, ranging from one-to-one individual support, group training, social activities with staff members, and multi-professional meetings; with staff acting as advocate for the young people.

On November 16 it is hosting a charity ball fundraising event to raise funds for the organisation to use towards the continued support of its service users.

The organisation said it aims to make the evening a 'spectacular occasion' with a special appearance from Colin Roy and the Charms.

Colin has worked in the entertainment business in London's West End for many years playing lead roles in Soul Train and Smokey Joe's Café.

The event will be held at the Auction House in Crescent Road. Tickets cost £35 and can be booked by calling 01582 452230.

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A barrel of laughs are on the cards when Jack is around

COMEDY

Jack Dee
The Grove Theatre, Dunstable
Tuesday, October 1

AFTER a six year absence from live comedy tours, Jack Dee has been touring the UK and Ireland to sell-out theatres for the past 18 months.

This autumn he is on the home run with the final leg of his critically acclaimed tour – still the same Jack, agonizing over the slightest of annoyances and misdemeanours of everyday life.

Jack's started his stand up career in 1986 when he delivered his first open mike spot at the world famous London Comedy Store.

Like most established comedians, it was not until 1991 that he got his first big break by being nominated for the Edinburgh Festival Perrier Award and winning the British Comedy Award for Best Comedy Newcomer.

In 1992 he began hosting the critically acclaimed Jack Dee Show on Channel 4 which ran for two series.

Jack then moved to ITV where he hosted Jack Dee's Saturday Night (1995) and Jack Dee's Sunday Service (1997).

By 2000 he had moved to BBC1 and presented two series of Jack Dee's Happy Hour.

Since then he has established himself as one of Britain's well loved and biggest comedy stars.

He has won three British Comedy Awards, and was nominated for Best Entertainment Performer at the 2005 BAFTAs.

Tickets cost £21 and can be booked by calling the box office on 01582 602080.

Alternatively, you can make online bookings at www.grovetheatre.co.uk.



Co-op group welcomes all

CELEBRATION

The Co-operative Society
Today, 1pm

THE chairman of the Co-op sports and social club, Richard Klausner, and his committee are delighted to announce the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Stockingstone Road establishment.

The club was opened on October 15, 1963 by The Co-operative Society for all of their employees in the town.

At the time the Co-operative was a huge employer; back in the 1960s consumers would purchase everything from coal, milk, groceries, furniture, clothes and shoes, insurance and funeral services.

The Society cared for their employees from the cradle to grave and invested in premises throughout the country to bring together its workforce in a social environment.

Today, the club is a community oasis opening its doors to all of the residents of Luton.

The 700-strong members are from all walks of life and all

ages predominantly residing in the Round Green and Stopsley area – but everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the lively community atmosphere the club has to offer.

To mark the anniversary the club has announced a huge party to be held in the grounds and the three function rooms at the club located on Stockingstone Road today, starting at 1pm.

Entrance is free and the things on offer include:

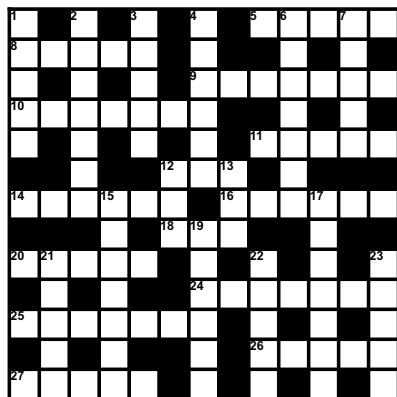
- BBQs
- Pony rides
- Bucking Bronco
- Bungee run
- Disco
- Bouncy Castle
- Bingo
- Live Music
- Face Painting
- Raffles

For further detail please contact Kay Joyce on 07950 545564.

The address for the venue is Stockingstone Road, Luton, LU2 7NF.

Other events being held by the Co-op this year include line dancing on August 30 and September 27, a family night on September 7, live music on September 20 and modern jive dance classes on September 3, 10, 17 and 24.

PUZZLE CORNER



THE THINKER

ACROSS

- 5 Clean half by working quickly (5)
- 8 Ache to have time to redecorate (5)
- 9 Draw a lot – mob scenes (7)
- 10 Soldier on report sent back round circle (7)
- 11 Deposit key with an eccentric coffee producer (5)
- 12 Starts a course, training in law (3)
- 14 Nothing great about this scallywag (6)
- 16 Educate at home, list activities (6)
- 18 Now sure we have it (3)
- 20 On return, some of them upset by spray (5)
- 24 Close to fixing retirement cover (7)
- 25 Really hot – big lion relaxes (7)
- 26 Lick this money (5)
- 27 Distress signal shows style, we hear (5)

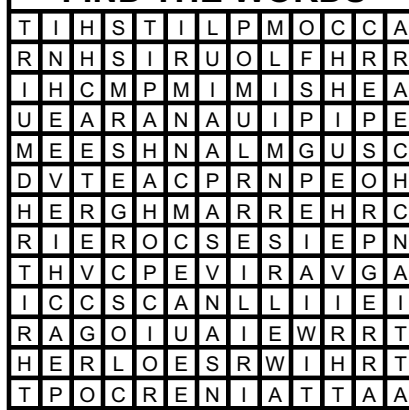
DOWN

- 1 Tap's turned – last time produced a flood (5)
- 2 Dissociate oneself from fresh video on church (7)
- 3 Measures taken to control pests (5)
- 4 Modern measures for first terrorist crime wave (6)
- 6 They correct mistakes when playing bridge (7)
- 7 Girl on an excursion (5)
- 12 Had a turn in the past (3)
- 13 Can be made of metal (3)
- 15 Country visitor could err with lamb stew (7)
- 17 We're told to fix floor covering that's good to touch (7)
- 19 Pale, leg broken, fix it somehow (6)
- 21 Lark around front of boat with novice (5)
- 22 Bag I left – contents moved easily (5)
- 23 Barely able to lose a stone (5)

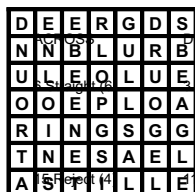
SU DOKU



FIND THE WORDS



Find the words: Up, down, forwards, backwards, straight or diagonal. This week: Succeed: Accomplish, Manage, Prosper, Get, Inherit, Arrive, Reach, Succeed, Realise, Thrive, Flourish, Prevail, Win, Triumph, Achieve, Coup, Score, Attain, Master, Reign



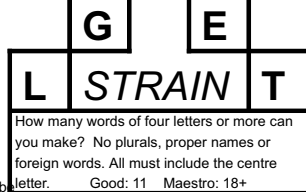
MATCH FIVE

Amongst the five letter words, can you find the five that appear in both grids? (Forwards, backwards, up, down, straight or diagonal)



BRAIN

How many words of four letters or more can you make? No plurals, proper names or foreign words. All must include the centre letter. Good: 11 Maestro: 18+



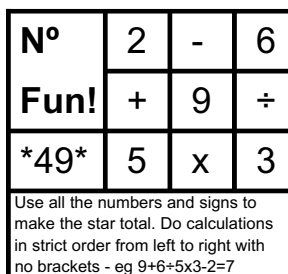
QUICKSOLVE?

- ACROSS Series No 09085A
1. Speculator (4)
 2. Colourless (4)
 3. Bog (4)
 3. Proposal (6)
 6. Straight (6)
 7. Compete (3)
 9. Pouch (6)
 10. Guiding light (6)
 13. Life force (3)
 14. Jailed (6)
 15. Reject (4)
 16. On holiday (4)
 2. Colourless (4)
 3. Proposal (6)
 4. Annul (6)
 5. Rain hard (4)
 8. Send away (6)
 9. Medicine (6)
 10. Support (4)
 11. A continent (4)
 12. Flock (4)

Solutions

ANSWER: BRAIN STRAIN

ANSWER: MATCH FIVE



Use all the numbers and signs to make the star total. Do calculations in strict order from left to right with no brackets - eg 9+6+5x3-2=7

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The Close

£175,000

Rarely available three bedroom semi detached family home located in the Icknield area of Luton. Briefly comprising two large separate reception rooms, fitted kitchen, three first floor bedrooms and a family bathroom. Potential to extend to the rear (STPP). Chain free.

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DALLOW ROAD AREA



Price £171,995

Large end terrace with three reception rooms within walking distance to both Luton Town Centre and Luton Train Station. Ideal for a buy to let purchase. EPC Rating E

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 1 garage(s)

SOUTH LUTON



Price £165,000

A rarely available three bedroom apartment located in an exclusive development situated next to Luton Hoo Memorial Park! EPC Rating C

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- Balcony
- 1 off road parking

OFF OLD BEDFORD ROAD



Price £139,995

A very large two bedroom apartment with a large L Shaped lounge/diner and study. There is also a kitchen four piece bathroom and cloakroom. This really is an apartment that needs to be viewed internally EPC Rating - E

- 2 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- Communal garden

OLD / NEW BEDFORD ROAD AREA



Guide price £310,000

Located in this most popular location and offered with no upper chain. With a large and secluded garden. CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR VIEWING TIME EPC Rating - D

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- Large garden
- 1 garage(s)

BISCOT



Price £119,950

Two bedroom terrace with no upper chain. Although in need of some modernisation the price has been set accordingly. With gas central heating and double glazing EPC Rating E

- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms

CHALLNEY



Price £245,000

Largely extended semi detached home over 3 floors with a lovely master bedroom and en-suite. The ground floor has also been extended. CALL NOW TO VIEW EPC Rating - D

- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Private rear garden
- 2 off road parking

BUSHMEAD



Price £194,995

Immaculate semi detached home in this most popular of locations with a large conservatory to the rear. There is ample parking to the front along with a garage. EPC Rating - D

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garden
- 1 garage(s)

WARDEN HILLS



Price £214,995

Extended semi detached family home with a lovely open plan kitchen / diner. With gas central heating and double glazing throughout this really is a home not to be missed EPC Rating D

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- 1 off road parking

ROUND GREEN



Price £154,995

Very well presented three bed home with two reception rooms and modern fitted kitchen. The gardens are of a good size and there is a single garage to the front. BE QUICK TO VIEW EPC Rating - D

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garden
- 1 garage(s)

ST ANNES



Price £115,000

Look at this large apartment offered in excellent condition throughout. The apartment also has Pvc double glazing throughout with the added bonus of a single garage. EPC - tbc

- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- 1 garage(s)

LEAGRAVE



Price £249,995

Former coach house for sale offering large and spacious living accommodation. WORKING FROM HOME - Look no further there is also a home office located in the private and large rear garden EPC Rating - E

- 4 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- Large garden
- 1 garage(s)

HIGHTOWN



Price £149,995

Immaculate three bed terraced which has recently undergone major refurbishment to include a brand new kitchen and bathroom. Also benefits from a garage. EPC Rating - D

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garden
- 1 garage(s)

LEAGRAVE



£925

Four bedroom house available immediately on an unfurnished basis close to Leagrave train station, M1 & hospital. 3 reception rooms, garage & driveway. EPC Rating C

- 4 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garden
- 3 off road parking

SUNDON PARK

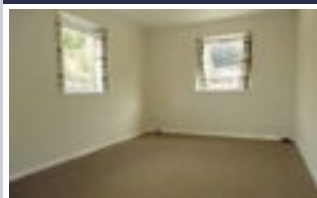


£650 Per calendar month

Well presented two bedroom ground floor apartment two double bedrooms modern kitchen & bathroom available early September unfurnished. EPC Rating B

- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms
- 1 off road parking

HIGHTOWN



£650 Per month

Completely refurbished two double bedroom first floor flat walking distance to train station & town centre. New kitchen with white goods. Available Now unfurnished. EPC Rating C

- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 1 Reception Rooms

CADDINGTON



£1,100 Per month

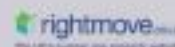
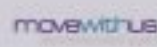
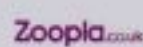
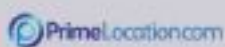
Very well presented deceptively large three bedroom semi detached house. Available early September on an unfurnished basis. Call 01582 485 840 NOW. EPC Rating C

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Large garden
- 2 off road parking

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- EPC - D



TOWN CENTRE, Hartley Road £950 pcm

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- White Goods
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- EPC D



TOWN CENTRE, Milton Road £675 pcm

- Two Bedroom Terraced House
- Located In The Town Centre
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
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- Large Family Bathroom
- Available Now



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- Bedroom And Lounge Area
- Double Glazed & Gas Central Heating
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- Located In The Heart Of The Town Centre
- Available Now
- EPC - B



DALLOW ROAD, Newcombe Road £500

- One Bedroom Ground Floor Maisonette
- Part Furnished
- White Goods Included
- Fitted Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Available Now



TOWN CENTRE, Park Street £950 pcm

- 3 Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Double Glazed
- GCH
- Part Furnished
- Available Now



CHALNEY, Rodeheath £650

- 2 Bedroom Modern Flat
- Fitted Kitchen
- White Goods
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Unfurnished
- Close To M1 L&D Hospital
- Available Now
- EPC - C



TOWN CENTRE, Harcourt Street £1,000 pcm

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- 4 Bedroom student property
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Round Green £214,950

Extended, modernised & redecorated 3 bed s/d * stunning improvements include the addition of a ground floor cloakroom, a kitchen/breakfast room plus third reception room * refitted bathroom * gas c/h * upvc double glazing * garage at rear



South Luton £149,995

2 bed corner house * porch * lounge * kitchen * conservatory * upstairs bathroom * wood grain effect dble glaz. * gas c/h * forecourt parking, garage at rear and driveway * fenced rear garden * ideal investment or 1st home * chain free



Lea Meadow £79,950

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South Luton £315,000

edwardian semi detached home retaining many of the original features including some sash windows, open fire places, leaded and stained glass windows * 4



Off Old Bedford Rd £159,995

3 beds * hall * good size kitchen/breakfast room * rear lobby * upstairs bathroom * gas c/h * upvc dble glaz * front and rear gardens * forecourt parking * ideal



Sundon Park £144,950

3 bed end terrace * porch * entrance hall * lounge * kitchen * upstairs bathroom * front and rear gardens * gas fired c/h * upvc double glazing * garage at rear



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Of course we want a dynamic, self-motivated team player who is creative and hungry to make and break the news but let's not overcomplicate things: bring me stories.

If you can treat the people of Northamptonshire with respect and humility but still make them say wow when they read their news then you might just have what we want.

If you can't drive or don't have a means of transport you are giving yourself a mountain to climb. If the idea of turning up to your interview with a few stories you have dug up yourself fills you with horror then maybe it's better you just don't turn up.

But if you're still reading and you fancy a competitive salary, five weeks annual holiday and a contributory pension scheme in return for a great job in a leading media company then contact steve.scoles@hpnorthants.co.uk (01604 614606) for an application pack.

Send the completed application pack and 150 words on the best thing you have done in journalism so far to steve.scoles@hpnorthants.co.uk
Applications close on 30th August.

We encourage applications from all walks of life and all applications will be considered on merit.

As a division of Local World we also publish weekly newspapers and websites across Herts, Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Northants, Staffs and Essex.

It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide opportunity for the advancement of employees including promotion and training and not discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, ages, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union memberships. (Previous applicants need not apply)

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LOCAL WORLD

We currently have six vacancies within two large GP Practices. Applicants should have a motivated & flexible approach with strong communication skills.

Health Care Assistant / Clinical Support Worker (Permanent) - Band 3 (Full time) - Wheatfield Surgery

Fully qualified HCA / Clinical Support Worker required with at least three years experience of working in Primary Care such as a GP Practice or Medical Centre.

Applicants must have appropriate skills & experience in phlebotomy and basic wound care. Experience in health promotion & smoking cessation desirable.

Receptionists x 2 - Wheatfield Surgery

One role working 8am to 4pm, the other, 2pm to 8pm, both Monday - Friday.

Wheatfield Surgery is a large, busy & friendly GP Practice & we are looking to recruit Receptionists who will thrive in an environment where there is a high level of patient interaction.

Applicants should be highly motivated, discreet, empathetic, I.T. literate individuals with a mature, calm outlook & a "can-do" attitude.

High standards of personal presentation required.

Salary negotiable.

Applicants will need to submit a C.V. & a covering letter, clearly marked which role the application is for.

Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview.

Practice Nurse (Permanent) - Band 6 Full time - Houghton Regis Medical Centre

Practice Nurse required with at least three years experience of working in a GP Practice or Medical Centre. Applicants must have appropriate skills/experience in minor illness, chronic disease management, immunisations & treatment room.

Practice Matron (Temporary) - Band 7. Two posts both full time - Wheatfield Surgery & Houghton Regis Medical Centre.

We have two temporary posts available to the end of March 2014 in two different practices. Applicants should ideally be independent Nurse Prescribers with experience of assessing, risk stratifying & planning individualised patient care for frail, elderly adults.

To apply or for further information & job descriptions, please contact the relevant person below:-

Receptionists, Clinical Support Worker / HCA & Practice Matron Roles :
The Practice Manager, Wheatfield Surgery, 60, Wheatfield Road, Luton, LU4 0TR.
01582 601116

Practice Nurse & Practice Matron roles :

The Practice Manager, Houghton Regis Medical Centre, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Beds. LU5 5EZ.

Teaching Assistant Special Educational Needs

L3 - £8.52 per hour
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Term time only plus 5 training days
Starting at £11,202 per annum

We are looking to appoint a Teaching Assistant for our Special Educational Needs Department.

The successful applicant will:

- support the teaching and learning of individuals or groups within the classroom and on occasions in withdrawal situations
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- contribute to the planning of teaching and learning for the whole class or individuals

The ability to use ICT would be an advantage but not essential as hands on training is available.

If you are interested, further information and an application pack can be downloaded from the school's website.

Closing date **Thursday 8th September 2013**

Interviews scheduled to be held: **Week beginning 15th September 2013**

Principal: **Daniel Connor**

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

CV's will not be accepted for any posts based in schools. Please contact us if you need any assistance.



The Academy of Central Bedfordshire

Required for September 2013

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The Academy of Central Bedfordshire:

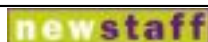
The Academy of Central Bedford is an Alternative Provision Free School that will open in September 2013 in Houghton Regis with a further site opening in Stotfold in 2014. The Academy will initially cater for 95 students aged 11 - 16 in the first year, rising to 140 students in 2016. If you would like more information about the ACB, please go to the website www.academyofcentralbedfordshire.co.uk

Application packs and further information can be obtained from the website www.academyofcentralbedfordshire.co.uk. If you have any queries, please contact Lou Ellis stlouellis@redborne.beds.sch.uk

All offers of employment are "conditional" until Criminal Record Bureau and qualification checks have been successfully completed and satisfactory references have been received. The Academy of Central Bedfordshire is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Closing date for all applications: Tuesday 3rd September, 2013 at noon

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For an application pack with job description:
email chris@lutonrights.org
or telephone 01582 453372
Please note CVs are not acceptable

Closing date: Monday 2nd September 1.00pm
Interviews 11th September

Luton Rights is a registered charity in England & Wales (1146500)



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Care Co-ordinator

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Please contact Chris Batten on 01234 310310 for further information

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You will be contacted within 48 hours if your CV is of interest.

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Closing date: 8 September 2013.

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For an informal discussion please contact Lydia Braisher on 0300 300 4769 or email: lydia.braisher@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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Interview date: 24 September 2013.

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Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 30th August 2013

We are seeking 2 Project Officers to extend the excellent work achieved in our BBS area to ensure that all of our project partners are supported in order that their students achieve their full potential.

Successful candidates will be committed to high standards and have the skills required to raise the success of partnership working.

The work of Project Officers will include; preparing project plans, maintaining records, providing reports, recruiting students, travelling to partners if required, dealing with internal and external customers and carrying out all of the administrative tasks associated with each project, as well as ensure a high level of customer service is provided to both employers and students, recording all activity using the designated systems and processes.

The Project Officers will be members of the BBS team and will work closely with other teams and Sub-Contract partners.

Good communication skills are essential.

To apply please email recruitment@barnfield.ac.uk to request an application form.

CVs will not be accepted for these posts.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the DBS. We are an equal opportunities employer.

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Arts Libraries & Museums

Luton Culture

Delivering cultural services on behalf of Luton Borough Council

Learning Co-ordinator

£23,945 - £26,539 pa

Ref: 13/0461

We have an opportunity for a permanent Learning Co-ordinator role which is part of the busy Luton Culture Learning Team. You will be responsible for the delivery of the existing Museum schools programme and Arts for Schools programme, the development of sessions and resources in response to changing curriculum needs and linked to changing exhibitions programme. You will also be responsible for the supervision of two Learning Officer posts and a pool of Casual Activity Leaders.

Duties include working closely with the Schools Library Service and external partners to deliver the Luton Culture learning offer for schools in Luton and the surrounding areas.

Demonstrable experience of planning and delivering educational activities to a wide variety of ages and abilities including school-aged children is essential along with experience of working in an arts and/or museums environment.

Interview date: 19 September 2013.

Learning Officer

£21,067 - £23,188 pa

Ref: 13/0462

Fixed-term until 2 January 2015

The Learning Officer role is part of the busy Luton Culture Learning Team. The purpose of this post is to deliver teaching sessions to school groups in the museum and across all Luton Culture venues and in school as required. You will contribute towards the development of the Learning Team's services for schools in response to changing curriculum needs, linked to Luton Culture's exhibition programme and external project funding.

Duties include actively seeking funding to support core activities and for the progression of new projects for the Learning Team.

Demonstrable experience of planning and delivering educational activities to a wide variety of ages and abilities including school-aged children is essential along with an understanding of different teaching and learning styles and how diverse methods can be applied. You must also be a Qualified Teacher or Teaching Assistant or have relevant teaching experience.

Interview date: 26 September 2013.

Closing date for both roles: 9 September 2013.

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Candidates will need to request an application form either by emailing jobs@luton.gov.uk or calling 01582 546621 as applications are not being collected through our system.

Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

Luton Culture is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff to share this commitment.

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On 12th August 2013 Central Bedfordshire Council made the above named Road Traffic Regulation as follows:-

To introduce a One Way Traffic Order on the following lengths of road in Dunstable:-
Downs Road From Allen Close to Great Northern Road - vehicles permitted to travel in that direction only.

Note:- The notice published on 20th March 2013 included a proposal to introduce a One Way Traffic Order in Park Road and a Prohibition of Driving at the junction of Downs Road and Barton Avenue. These restrictions will not be implemented at this time.

Date of Operation:- The Orders will come into operation on the 19th August 2013.

Further Details of the Order may be examined during normal opening hours at Dunstable Library, Vernon Place, Dunstable LU5 4HA.

High Court Challenge:- Any person who desires to question the validity of the Order or of any provision contained therein on the ground that it is not within the powers of the relevant Section of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 or on the ground that any requirement of that Section had not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks of 12th August 2013, make application for the purpose to the High Court.

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AUDI'S A GAME

Audi's second stab at fostering a supermini dynasty is called the A1 and the recipe is a far simpler one than that which resulted in the A2 some ten years previously. The hope within Audi is that the A1 can stand out from the pack with its prestige badge and premium cabin quality while holding its own with solid mechanicals borrowed from the Volkswagen Polo. It sounds like a plan that will have the rest of the contenders at the fashionable end of the supermini sector worried.

We've seen all of the engines before elsewhere in the Audi and VW group line-ups. The TSI petrol engines use turbocharging to compensate for their modest capacities, the 1.2 TSI achieving 86PS with 160Nm of torque and the entry-level 1.4 TSI chipping in with 122PS and 200Nm. There's also a 185PS version of this 1.4 that uses both supercharger and turbocharger allied with a clever 7-speed DSG semi-automatic gearbox. The diesel option is a 1.6-litre common-rail injection TDI

unit with 105PS and 250Nm. Both of the entry-level petrol engines return very similar economy and emissions figures of about 55mpg and 119g/km. The diesel is substantially better with an excellent 70.6mpg and a CO2 output of 105g/km.

A conventional supermini shape is adopted by the A1, which isn't a great surprise given its mechanical similarity to the largely conventional VW Polo. It also means that the A1 gains an edge over rivals from the trendier end of the supermini sector with a 267-litre boot that expands to 920 litres with the rear seat backs folded.

The exterior of the car is crawling with recognisable Audi design cues and although you couldn't call the looks adventurous, the A1 has got the combination of neat proportions and engaging detailing that Audi does so well. The one feature that obviously breaks from the Audi master plan is the roof arch which can be specified in a different colour to the rest of the bodywork.



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RUGBY UNION

Turner is the new chairman at Luton

MARK Turner has become the new chairman at Luton RFC, taking over from the outgoing Keith Butten.

Mr Butten has been at the helm for nine 'fun and challenging' years but decided not to stand for election again this time as he believes that the club requires a new structure moving forward.

When making his decision he made it clear that he would still continue to support the club and the new chairman, subject to his input being sought.

At the 2013 AGM a number of members offered to fill much needed roles so that the new management committee could spread the ever increasing list of tasks across a broader breadth of individuals.

The commitment of additional volunteers, combined with Keith's commitment to take on an important commercial and strategic role, was sufficient to encourage Mr Turner, a long standing club member and former first team manager, colts manager and youth and mini chairman, to stand as chairman.

"Mark knows the inner workings of the club as well as anyone else having been involved in the club's management throughout my tenure and his style will very much suit what is needed right now to steer the willing volunteers, so that the clubs objectives are achieved," said Mr Butten.

"I am very much looking forward to continuing my contribution to Luton Rugby in a more focused role, one that is crucial if the club is to fulfil its full potential.

"I will be championing all that is great about Luton Rugby and seeking more partners so that the club can extend the benefits it delivers to our community.

"I will also be seeking to support the club management with key strategic matters as I know better than most how difficult it can be for volunteers to address primary objectives when day to day issues constantly need to be addressed."

Mr Turner's day job means that he often works overseas and therefore he will focus on managing and empowering the staff and volunteers so as to build on all the best things the club has achieved during recent years.

"Luton RFC is massively indebted to Keith, and his family, for their nine years of service," he said.

"I would like to think that I have the trust of the wider membership. Now is no time to hide, the club needs the membership's full support and I am keen to harness the many talents our collective possesses.

"It is important to me and the wider club that Keith remains involved and he has now agreed to take on a strategic development role.

"I am looking forward to a great season on the pitch across the board, as well as moving the whole club forward off it."

CRICKET

Super over in cup

LUTON Pakistanis won the 29th annual Jinnah Cup after defeating Global Stars in the final.

The match was decided using one super over due to rain with Pakistanis (13-1) beating the Stars (13-2) thanks to fewer wickets conceded.

Earlier, an eight over tournament featured teams from Leeds, Bedford, Slough, Northampton and ten Luton sides.



WATCHING ON: Two of the season's title favourites went head to head at The New Lawn

Lacey's strike ruled

FOOTBALL

SKRILL PREMIER
FOREST GREEN ROVERS
LUTON TOWN

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BY TOM SHARP
sport@lsmmedia.co.uk

A GAME that on paper promised so much, delivered so little as the Hatters played out a goalless draw at Forest Green Rovers.

Alex Lacey's second-half offside goal was the nearest either side came to registering on the score-sheet as Luton nullified Rovers to make it three Skril Premier games without defeat.

A solid result and just at the right time with a Bank Holiday clash with high flyers Cambridge United at Kenilworth Road lurking ominously on the horizon.

A packed house crammed into the New Lawn Ground in the sleepy Gloucestershire town of

Nailsworth to witness the bookies' two pre-season favourites to win promotion to the Football League.

Despite bold summer predictions, both entered the intriguing encounter with much to improve on, having only amassed four points from their opening three tests.

Rovers are awash with talent after substantial investment from chairman Dale Vince including three former Watford players, defenders Dale Bennett and Eddie Oshodi and midfielder Al Bangura.

They also boasted former Town forward Matthew Barnes-Homer, much to the disapproval of the travelling masses as his name was announced in the starting line-up before the match kicked-off.

Knowing the quality of their opponents, Hatters manager John Still was eager to match Green blow-for-blow, opting for a 4-3-3 formation, unleashing the dangerous trio of Mark

Cullen, Andre Gray and Jon Shaw.

A brave decision against a side who smashed eight past ten-man Hyde in their league opener. However, a promising start looked to have justified his selections.

Hatters midfielder Luke Guttridge has been in sparkling form since his arrival from Northampton Town in the summer and he almost added to his two-goal tally with a crisp eighth-minute volley but he was denied by a firm Sam Russell palm.

Cullen also looked lively but wasted the best of his two opportunities in the 12th minute, sending a low shot gratefully into the keeper's comfortable grasp.

The on-rushing Shaw had every right to challenge for the scraps, catching Russell in the head.

Fierce objections from a number of Forest Green players led to a mini melee with Shaw and Rovers defender Chris Stokes seeing yellow

Beds end their season without a victory

CRICKET

BY DAN PALMER
sport@lsmmedia.co.uk

BEDFORDSHIRE'S season ended without a victory after a five wicket reverse against Lincolnshire in the Minor Counties Championship Eastern Division.

After losing all of their matches in the season opening one day knock-out trophy, Jamie Hewitt's side also failed to find success in the three day format, thanks to four draws from their opening four games and two defeats from

the final two contests. The latest loss came after Beds had opted to bat at Grantham, but Lincolnshire bowled them out for just 196.

Luke Thomas top-scored with 52 as David Lucas (6-58) did the bulk of the damage with the ball for the hosts.

In the second innings, Lincs used their full 90 overs to finish on 334-8, a lead of 138 over Beds.

Conrad Routh's 50 was their best knock, but there were useful contributions throughout the order.

Alex King (4-104) returned the best figures for the visitors and Hewitt's men did better with the bat second time around, although their

total of 351 all out would not prove to be enough after their first innings woes.

Skipper and coach Hewitt notched 40 but the star of the show was George Thurstance, who scored a fine 106 from 220 deliveries before he was bowled by Adam Shepherd.

Despite that effort, Lincolnshire required only 213 for victory and they used 57 overs to reach their goal.

Beds finished ninth in the table, only above Northumberland. Eastern Division champions Cambridgeshire will now face Western winners Cheshire in a four day final for the overall Minor Counties title.



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AERIAL BATTLE: Luke Guttridge challenges for the ball with Rovers' Anthony Barry.

Pictures: Gareth Owen

out in goalless stalemate

for their heated stand-off.

As the half went on, Rovers slowly found their rhythm with James Norwood particularly giving Scott Griffiths a headache down the left hand side of the park.

The defensive efforts of Gray were keeping the impressive right-winger neutralised but stunting the Hatters' attacking danger much to Still's visible anguish.

Not long after being booked for a reckless tackle, Rovers' Bangura was then guilty of a further cynical challenge on Shaun Whalley in the 45th-minute when twenty yards out, giving Town a chance to take a slender lead into the half-time break.

However, Guttridge's poor free kick brought the curtain down on an underwhelming half.

The home faithful released the drum for the start of the second period to attempt to up the tempo and were further infused with the arrival of Jan Klukowski for Danny Wright.

Jake Howells was soon added to the mix for the Hatters in place of Shaw as they reverted back to a more conventional 4-4-2 formation. Still perhaps wary that one point would be a good reward from this tricky trip.

Lacey thought he had opened his Hatters account and in turn found the breakthrough in the 62nd minute at a Guttridge free kick but his cool side-foot was ruled out for offside, much to the disappointment of Luton's travelling masses.

Town's fans were on their feet again soon after as Gray challenged Bennett for a stray ball in the box with the pair grappling to the ground but referee Brett Huxtable waved away hopeful protests.

The introduction of defender Andrew Parry for striker Cullen was a further indication of Still's contentment with a well-earned point as the game entered the final ten minutes.

With Town searching for a counter-attack

goal to steal the three points, another tussle between Gray and Bennett in the 86th minute saw the defender again win out.

A wild dash and clearance from keeper Russell deep into added time left his goal momentarily unguarded but Town could not capitalise and that proved to be the final action as the travelling Hatters acknowledged a very handy away point with a standing ovation for their side.

Forest Green Rovers – Russell; Hodgkiss, Bennett, Oshodi, Stokes; Bangura, Kelly, Barry (capt); Barnes-Homer (Vieira, 65), Norwood (Koroma, 90), Wright (Klukowski, 54). Subs not used – Asafu-Adjaye, Bulman.

Luton – Tyler; Henry, McNulty, Lacey, Griffiths; Whalley, Guttridge, Smith; Shaw (Howells, 55), Gray, Cullen (Parry, 78). Subs not used – Justham, Martin, Robinson.

Attendance – 1858 (653)



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Peacock grabs a double as Barton claim thumping win

FOOTBALL

BY MATT DESAI
sport@lsmmedia.co.uk

THREE goals in the final ten minutes gave **Barton Rovers** a thumping 4-0 victory over Beaconsfield SYCOB at Holloways Park in the Southern League Central yesterday.

Liam McDevitt gave the visitors the lead after just seven minutes when he drilled a finely executed shot in low past the Beaconsfield 'keeper. Beaconsfield failed to seriously trouble Kyle Forster in the Rovers goal in a first-half that was generally even, only managing a number of efforts that sailed over the crossbar.

The influential Nat Peacock continued to be

at the heart of the action and with just over five minutes remaining he reaped the fruits of his labour, pouncing on a goalkeeping error to double Rovers' lead with a neat finish.

It wasn't to end there either as heading into the final minute, James Edgerley's fine through ball found the rampant striker in enough space for him to deservedly notch his second of the game.

Barton, now with their tails well and truly up, compiled Beaconsfield's misery and put the cherry on top of a fantastic performance, when Keshi Anderson added a fourth.

"It was a solid win and very pleasing," said Rovers boss Dan Kennoy.

"In the second half I thought we were fitter than them.

"Seven points on the board is a good start but we had a good start last year."

Elsewhere in the division, an injury-time winner from Lee Roache handed **Dunstable Town** a vital three points in a hard-fought clash against Chalfont St Peter at Mill Meadow.

The game had looked destined for a goalless draw until a piece of good old-fashioned route-one football put the forward in the clear and he coolly slotted the ball home.

Chris Francis came closest to breaking the deadlock in an evenly contested first-half when his shot cannoned back off the upright.

An exciting second period saw chances for both teams, with Roache keeping Michael Power-Simspon busy in the hosts' goal.

Substitute Daryl Atkins impressed for The Saints, forcing a string of fine saves out of Jamie Head, as The Blues leapfrog their opponents to move into eighth place in the league.

AFC Dunstable ran out 3-0 winners at home to ten-man London Colney to maintain their unbeaten start to the season in the Spartan South Midlands Premier Division.

The resounding win at Creasey Park, aided by a London Colney red card at 1-0, moves AFC up to second place in the league with seven points from a possible nine available.

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Rovers draw the 'best' Hatters display so far



NO GOALS: Mark Cullen gets a shot away as the Hatters drew a blank. Picture: Gareth Owen

FOOTBALL

BY TOM SHARP
sport@lsmmedia.co.uk

LUTON Town manager John Still hailed his side's battling 0-0 stalemate away to Forest Green Rovers as their "best performance of the season".

The last time Rovers took to the New Lawn Ground they stuck eight past Hyde in an opening-day drubbing but they looked relatively blunt in attack as Luton had the better chances to snatch what would have been a deserved win.

Despite an inconsistent start to the season, Town have now gone three Skrill Premier matches without defeat and Still believes this point was a tremendous addition to his side's early-season tally.

"Our organisation was first class," said Still.

"I think Tyles (Mark Tyler) only had one shot to save.

"Along with a dangerous cross near the end of the game I thought we restricted them.

"Overall I think we were strong and solid. We perhaps needed a bit more in the final third but our game is coming together.

"It was definitely our best performance of the season."

The result could have swung in Town's favour had Green midfielder Al Bangura seen red for a poor challenge just before half time.

However, the Sierra Leone man, who was also sent off in Town's 1-1 with Rovers at Kenilworth Road back in February, escaped a second yellow much to Still's bemusement.

"Macca (Steve McNulty) quite rightly got booked for a body check on the halfway line and he did not get booked for a body check on the edge of the box," said Still.

"It is the referee's decision at the end of the day and the referee will have to decide if he made the right decision or not.

"I have already decided though and I think everyone else has too."

Luton had a long week to mull over last Saturday's poor 1-1

home draw with Macclesfield in which Luke Guttridge's under-served injury-time equaliser saved the day.

Still acknowledged his side's efforts in training in the past seven days though and feels some of the faults that had marred their first three outings had been rectified.

"The boys are likely to be disappointed with how they have started this season," said Still.

"I always tell them, 'do not come off the pitch disappointed with what you have done' and I do not think they will be disappointed.

"One or two individuals might be but the team, which the most important thing, will look at themselves and think yes we did most things right today."

Luton return to action tomorrow with a Bank Holiday Monday clash against high flying Cambridge United - managed by former boss Richard Money - at Kenilworth Road.

Log on to www.luton-dunstable.co.uk after the game for details, pictures and reaction from the match.

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